



P24846.A01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takayuki HIROSAWA et al. Group Art Unit: unknown
Appln. No.: 10/764,465 Examiner: unknown
Filed: January 27, 2004
For: NETWORK SCANNER AND MULTIFUNCTION MACHINE
INCORPORATED WITH A NETWORK SCANNER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Patent No. JP 9204515, which published on August 5, 1997, together with an English translation of the abstract. This document is cited on page 1 of the specification;

U.S. Patent 5,881,233 to TOYODA et al, issued March 9, 1999. U.S. Patent 5,881,233 has numerous patents and pending applications related thereto as divisions or as continuations, copies of which are not attached. However, if any copies of the related patents or applications are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned;

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U.S. Patent No. 6,557,045 to TSUKUI et al, issued April 29, 2003;

U.S. Patent No. 6,692,167 to NAKADAIRA et al, issued February 17, 2004;

U.S. Patent No. 6,650,794 to AOKI, issued November 18, 2003;

U.S. Publication No. 2003-0169447 to NAKADAIRA, published September 11, 2003; and

U.S. Publication No. 2004-0070630 to NAGOSHI et al, published April 15, 2004;

Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner consider and cite the above-noted documents. Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned. A copy of the foreign-language document and an English language translation thereof are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate space on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants also call to the Examiner's attention the following commonly assigned patent application:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/568,128 to TOYODA, filed May 10, 2000.

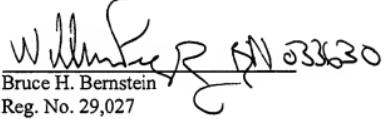
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-mentioned application is attached hereto. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file

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wrapper of the U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Of course, if for any reason the Examiner cannot locate the application, Applicants will provide any requested materials, if possible.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Takayuki HIROSAWA et al.


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April 29, 2004
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